



Attorney Docket No.: 00.22US

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Application of: Maes, et al.

Serial No.: 09/773,351

Group Art Unit: 1619

Filed: January 31, 2001

Examiner: Willis, M.

For: Cholesterol Sulfate and Amino Sugar Compositions for Enhancement of Stratum Corneum Function

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RESPONSE PURSUANT TO 37 CFR 1.111

The Assistant Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

In response to the Examiner's Action dated July 5, 2001, please enter the following amendments and consider the accompanying remarks.

CLEAN AMENDMENTS

Please amend the following claims as follows in its clean form below and as the previous version of the claim is marked on the attached page entitled **MARKED AMENDMENTS**.

A1
12 (Amended). The composition of claim 1 further comprising both sclareolide and white birch extract.

A2
20 (Amended). The method of claim 19 further comprising cholesterol sulfate or salts thereof in an amount of about 0.1 to 2.0 percent, about 0.5 to 8.0 percent of N-acetyl-D-glucosamine, cholesterol in an amount of about 0.2 to 1.0 percent, linoleic acid in an amount of about 0.2 to 1.0 percent by weight of the composition, sclareolide in an amount of about 0.001 to about 1.000 percent, and white birch extract in an amount of about 0.001 to about 1.000 percent.

REMARKS

In the present Office Action, Claims 1 to 4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Sebag et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 5,411,742, hereinafter referred to as "the '742 reference") because, according to the Examiner, the '742 reference discloses a composition containing salicylic acid derivatives and cholesterol sulfate. Further, the Examiner notes that salicylic acid is a known exfoliant, and therefore, the present invention is not novel. To anticipate under §102(b), a single prior source must